



# **KIBABII UNIVERSITY**

**UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS  
2021/2022 ACADEMIC YEAR**

**SECOND YEAR FIRST SEMESTER  
MAIN EXAMINATIONS**

**FOR THE DEGREE OF BED (SCIENCE)**

**COURSE CODE:** SPH 211

**COURSE TITLE:** WAVES AND OSCILLATIONS

**DATE:** 25/01/2022

**TIME:** 2-4PM

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## **INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

TIME: 2 Hours

Answer question ONE and any TWO of the remaining

KIBU observes ZERO tolerance to examination cheating

**QUESTION ONE (30 marks) compulsory**

- (a) Define the following terms:
- (i) Wavelength (1mk)
  - (ii) Amplitude (1mk)
  - (iii) Time period (1mk)
- (b) Distinguish between transverse and longitudinal wave motions (2mks)
- (c) Briefly discuss the three types of velocities in wave motion (6mks)
- (d) Show that the discharge of a condenser through the following inductive circuit is oscillatory hence calculate its frequency.  $C = \mu F$ ,  $L = 10mH$  and  $R = 200\Omega$  (8mks)
- (e) Define normal mode of vibration and state its importance (2mks)
- (f) State the characteristics of wave motion (4mks)
- (g) Consider a body executing simple harmonic motion through a small displacement  $x$  from its equilibrium position, show that the equation of simple harmonic motion is given by:

$$\ddot{x} + \omega^2 x = 0 \quad (5mks)$$

**QUESTION TWO (20 marks)**

- (a) Consider a mechanical oscillator of mass,  $m$ , stiffness,  $k$  and resistance,  $r$  being driven by an alternating force,  $F_0 \cos \omega t$ , show that the displacement,  $x$ , of the oscillator is given by:

$$x = \frac{-iF_0 e^{i(\omega t - \phi)}}{\omega Z_m} \text{ hence discuss its solution } (16mks)$$

- (b) State any three information from the steady state behavior of displacement  $x$  of a forced oscillator. (3mks)
- (c) State the voltage equation in the electrical case of forced oscillatory motion (1mk)

**QUESTION THREE (20 marks)**

- (a) The equation of displacement of a point on a damped oscillator is given by:

$$x = 5e^{-0.25t} \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{2}t\right)$$

Determine the velocity of the oscillating point at  $t = \frac{T}{4}$  and  $T$  where  $T$  is the time period of the oscillator. (13mks)

- (b) Consider two simple harmonic motions given by:

$$x_1 = a_1 \cos(\omega t + \phi_1) \text{ and}$$

$$x_2 = a_1 \cos(\omega t + \phi_2)$$

Obtain the resulting displacement of the two motions (7mks)

**QUESTION FOUR (20 marks)**

- (a) Show that the kinetic energy of a vibrating particle is given by:

$$\text{Average kinetic energy} = \pi^2 m a^2 n^2$$

Where  $m$  is the mass of the vibrating particle,  $a$  is the amplitude of vibration and  $n$  is the frequency of the vibration. (12mks)

- (b) A particle executes simple harmonic motion given by the equation:

$$y = 12 \sin\left(\frac{2\pi t}{10} + \frac{\pi}{4}\right)$$

Determine the amplitude, frequency and displacement at  $t = 1.25\text{s}$ . (8mks)

**QUESTION FIVE (20 marks)**

- (a) State the condition for each of the following:

- i) Heavy damping (1mk)
- ii) Critical damping (1mk)
- iii) Light damping (1mk)

- (b) Consider the motion of an element of the gas of thickness  $\Delta x$  and unit cross-section under the influence of a sound wave. The particles in the layer  $x$  are displaced a distance  $\eta$  and those at  $x + \Delta x$  are displaced a distance  $\eta + \Delta\eta$ , show that:

$$\frac{\partial^2 \eta}{\partial x^2} = \frac{1}{C^2} \frac{\partial^2 \eta}{\partial t^2} \quad (15\text{mks})$$

- (c) State any two properties of electromagnetic waves (2mks)